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31 Gifted & Talented Education Teachers Honored Nov. 14

HOUSTON COUNTY, GA - Thirty-one teachers of gifted and talented students will be honored Nov. 14, 2017, at 4:00 p.m. at the central office. Each teacher will be presented \$500 and a certificate as a recipient of the Houston County Education Assistance Fund on behalf of the Manoj H. Shah family. Teachers are chosen for their enthusiasm, devotion and effectiveness in honors and advanced placement programs.

The honorees are listed below by school.

- Houston County High School - Jared Allen, James Brock and Crystal Russell
- Northside High School - Katherine Branch, JC Gravely and Shelly Stahl
- Perry High School - Debra Anderson, Courtney Herbert and Dawn Knappek
- Veterans High School - Jennifer Douglass, David Shepherd and Laura Stimus
- Warner Robins High School - Craig Brush, Louis Leskosky and Mark Stevens
- Bonaire Middle School - Melissa Knowland and Stephanie Wilson
- Feagin Mill Middle School - Macy Moulder and Kristy Yarbrough
- Huntington Middle School - Laurie Coggins and Lindsay Moneypenny
- Mossy Creek Middle School - Jennifer Davidson and Tamyé Fitzgerald
- Northside Middle School - Evie Stephens and Allison White
- Perry Middle School - Tara Craig and Debi Hundley
- Thomas Middle School - Andrea Jackson and Travis Phelps
- Warner Robins Middle School - Aimee Bagwell and Sara Pierce

Since 2001, the Shah family has recognized high school advanced placement and honors teachers with a cash award and a reception held in their honor. Dr. and Mrs. Shah initiated this gift because they were pleased with the education their three children received while enrolled in Houston County schools, to include graduation from Warner Robins High School. They created the fund to support teachers who nurture and encourage innovation, creativity and student passion. The award began with Warner Robins High and over time was extended to all five high schools. Beginning this school year, the Shah family has expanded their gift to include Houston County's eight middle schools. The Shah family will grant \$500 for three teachers in each of the five high schools and two teachers in each of the eight middle schools.

The gifted and talented education program offers motivated students unique opportunities to further their education. From the sciences to the humanities, dedicated teachers have been paramount in the success of these advanced classes.

“Dr. and Mrs. Shah are strong supporters of education in general, and of gifted and honors education specifically,” commented Jan Jacobsen, Director of Gifted Education and Advanced Placement Coordinator. “They feel that their children benefited greatly from the higher level classes that they took while students at Warner Robins High. This award is their way of supporting our school system’s gifted and talented program and dedicated teachers.”

The Houston County Board of Education central office is located at 1100 Main Street in Perry. For more information, please contact Jacobsen at 478-988-6395, ext. 10393, or Jan.Jacobsen@hcbe.net.

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